IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

DECEMBER 29, 1820.

Mr. Thomas, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of the Trustees of the Worthington College, in the county of Franklin and state of Ohio, made the following

REPORT:

That the petitioners state, that they have been incorporated by the legislature of the said state of Ohio, with power to confer degrees in the liberal arts and sciences; that, relying on the goodness of their cause, and on the expected munificence of a generous public, they have proceeded to organise their institution and commence the education of youth; that their success has been great, and the public expectation highly gratified, as is attested by their students being drawn from the most respectable families in the circumference of one hundred and sixty miles; that their funds are limited, and personal sacrifices and individual bounty cannot long keep pace with the expectations of the community and the growing wants of their college; that the state of Ohio is poor, having not a foot of land with which to endow her favorite seminaries of learning, and bids them look to the national législature, who alone possess the soil, a due proportion of which, as they conceive, ought to be appropriated to the higher branches of science; and that the village in which their college is located is beautiful, healthy, and in a central position, and the inhabitants respectable. For the reasons thus exhibited, they ask of Congress a liberal donation of unappropriated lands in their neighborhood.

Your committee have not been able to discover any thing in this case which gives the petitioners a stronger claim to the bounty of the general government, than other respectable seminaries of learning have, and not being prepared to admit the policy of the government's making donations of land to all institutions of this kind at this time, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted.

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